GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1849
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2016
Resource Centres for Academic Support
Ram Mohan Naidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up resource centres in every district to provide academic support to schools and colleges and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
(b) whether there are any districts in the country which do not have such centres and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
(c) the details of the kind of support these centres provide to local education institutes;
(d) whether these centres have been working efficiently and the details of any study conducted by the Government to assess the effectiveness of these centres; and
(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a) to (c): The Central Government implements the flagship programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for universalizing elementary education. SSA mandates the setting up of a Block Resource Centre (BRC) in each Community Development (CD) Block and Cluster Resource Centre (CRC) in every Cluster of approximately 18-20 schools, for providing training and on-site support to schools and teachers. SSA provides institutional support to these BRCs and CRCs.
Every district under SSA is covered by BRCs and CRCs. At the BRC level, there is a provision of six Resource Persons for subject specific teaching, two Resource Persons for Inclusive Education for children with special needs, and at the CRC level there is a provision of one CRC Coordinator to provide academic support to schools. Details of the sanctioned and operational BRCs and CRCs under the SSA are at Annexure I.
(d) & (e): In 2010, the Ministry of Human Resource Development conducted a study titled "Study of Effectiveness of BRCs and CRCs in providing Academic Support to Elementary Schools" to assess the performance of BRCs and CRCs and their support to elementary schools. The Study covered 14 States, viz. Assam, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Punjab, Mizoram, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh & West Bengal. The major findings of the study include, inter alia; greater need for focus of Resource Persons on academic work, capacity building of Resource Persons, and need for Information Technology (IT) enablement. The Report acknowledged that training given to teachers through the BRCs and CRCs was satisfactory.
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